

MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA STAFF MEETING, 21 FEBRUARY 1955

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PRESENT:

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1. [REDACTED] read aloud CIA Notice 20-705-1 dated 10 February 1955, concerning resignation. [REDACTED] said that the Divisions will receive copies of this CIA notice and that the Division Chiefs must make sure that all supervisors read and heed. 25X1A9a

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2. [REDACTED] EX/RR, brought in a list of questions from Colonel Miller of the Clark Committee, and [REDACTED] requested that [REDACTED] prepare answers to the questions. 25X1A9a

25X1A9a 3. [REDACTED] lined for the group a problem posed recently by [REDACTED] in a memorandum on responsibilities for geodetic intelligence in CIA. It has been [REDACTED]' experience that the scientific intelligence on the earth sciences has been inadequately handled in CIA. Responsibility for the earth sciences belongs to Geophysics Branch, Physics and Electronics Division, OSI. In these fields OSI has emphasized biographic intelligence and new developments. A well directed program should indicate what the Soviets are accomplishing in the earth sciences, resulting in adequate data for formulation of status reports and scientific intelligence estimates. Fields to be covered should include geology, meteorology, isostasy, hydrology, seismology, vulcanology and climatology, among others. 25X1X7  
that the JTB(London) has already reorganized and integ [REDACTED] 25X1X7

25X1A9a 4. [REDACTED] requested that [REDACTED] attend a meeting with [REDACTED] at 2:30 p.m. today in [REDACTED] Office. 25X1A9a  
The subject of the meeting will be the proposed CIA Urban Area Research program. 25X1A9a

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DOCUMENT NO. [REDACTED]  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS [REDACTED]  
DECLASSIFIED [REDACTED]  
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C  
NEXT REVIEW DATE: [REDACTED]  
AUTH: [REDACTED]  
DATE: [REDACTED] REVIEWER: 372044

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5. [REDACTED] reintroduced the question, "What types of regional studies should be self-initiated by the Geographic Area?" He proposed that regional studies could be made on changes in a region since a certain base date, for example 1939 or 1942 or whatever date was appropriate to the region. The report would consider only changes within the region and a discussion of why these changes were made. [REDACTED] agreed that this would be a logical approach for regional studies. He commented that he and [REDACTED] had discussed a possibility of such studies on the Siberian Islands and on Kamchatka.

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25X1A9a 6. [REDACTED] requested clarification of the recent attempts by [REDACTED] to establish a small inter-Agency group for coordination of requirements on domestic procurement of photography. [REDACTED] stated that the intent is that [REDACTED] explore with the Air Force, Army and Navy the possibilities for setting up such a group. [REDACTED] said that he has talked to the responsible people in Navy, Air Force and Army, and that he would like to introduce [REDACTED] to these individuals possibly this Thursday. After these initial visits, [REDACTED] can regularly visit these offices and get clear answers from the responsible individuals. The group would probably meet only to discuss support of big projects or to consider need-to-know information. [REDACTED] would probably be the Executive Secretary for the group meetings and [REDACTED] would be Chairman. It would not be a formal committee.

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25X1A9a 7. [REDACTED] commented that [REDACTED] briefed the Alaskan E & E people last week on the Chukotsk Peninsula.

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